

Making a worktable.

Like said earlier, it is recommended to make a work tablet that fits on your drill press. This is for your own safety, but also to get the best results.

Table:

Begin with a piece of plywood (can be birch, but hardwood is better) with a minimal thickness of 24mm. In our example we used 2 pieces of straight plywood and glued them together to a thickness of 24mm. This will provide more stability. You can choose to make cuts to fit the drill press perfectly for a bigger work area. Drill holes for the mounting to the cast iron drill press table.

Drill press tables can vary in attachment possibilities. The table in the example has a T-Rail cross where we fabricated a piece of hardwood for so a screw can be fitted in there.



Guide fence:

The rotating arm can be made with a piece of hardwood with a minimal thickness of 20mm. The arm will be attached to one side of the table with a screw. Make sure to align the arm perpendicular to the table so that when the safety planer is above it, the half of it covers the arm. Drill a hole that is slightly bigger than the screw you will use on 1 side of the arm. This will let the arm rotate more freely. Cut out half a circle with a diameter of 82mm which can fit the safety planer. When adjusting the arm for use, use a clamp to fixate the arm to the desired angle towards the safety planer.



Featherboard:

A featherboard helps to keep the workpiece in contact with the guide fence. Cut several saw kerfs into a rectangular piece of hardwood. Cut the end of the pieces at an angle. You can also secure the board to your planing table with a clamp, making sure it gives a light pressure against your work.

Hold down guide:

To make sure the workpiece stays flat to the table surface, you could attach a push wheel to the rotating arm to hold down your workpiece. In the pictures you see that we have fabricated an aluminum arm, but you can also make it less fancy by taking a metal strip and bend it. Use a bearing with nuts on a threaded wire so you can adjust the height. Bend the threaded wire so that it gives some pressure towards the rotating arm. See the examples.

